

2004 Michigan Fishing Guide

Rules apply from April 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005



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Regulations that
apply to fishing
for trout
and salmon
on inland waters
are included
in a separate
publication,
*2004
Michigan
Inland Trout
&
Salmon Guide*



The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund provides financial assistance to state agencies and units of local government to purchase land for recreation and the protection of our natural resources, and to develop public outdoor recreation facilities. Revenues from the development of state-owned oil, gas and mineral resources support the MNRTF.

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A complete listing of regulations and legal descriptions are available on our Web site: www.michigan.gov/dnr

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2004 Major Regulation Changes

Lake Erie — Walleye

There is a 15-inch minimum size limit, 5-fish daily bag limit, and an open season from June 1 - March 31. Lake Erie will be closed to walleye harvest from April 1 - May 31.

Detroit River — Walleye

There is a 15-inch minimum size limit and a 5-fish daily bag limit on the Detroit River (see page 17). Open all year.

Lake Sturgeon

See table 3 on page 10 for new Lake Sturgeon regulations.

Remember to check the Exceptions to General Regulations by County beginning on page 14 before going fishing. Make sure you review and understand: Lawful fishing methods and unlawful activities on page 5. A list of common fishing terms can be found on pages 17-18.

New For This Year

The northern pike and muskellunge regulations which differ from the general regulations have been moved from the exceptions by county listing and now are part of Note 7 on page 9. The spearing ban information is presented in Note 8 on page 10.

Purchase your fishing license (and more) online at www.michigan.gov/dnr	
LICENSE TYPE	COST
DNR Sportcard	\$1.00
Resident	
24 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 24-hour period)	\$7.00
Senior (65 or older)	\$3.00
Restricted (Good for all species EXCEPT trout and salmon)	\$14.00
Upgrade to All Species	\$13.00
Senior (65 or older)	\$5.60
Upgrade to All Species	\$5.20
All Species (Good for all species. Required on all designated trout streams and lakes. See the 2004 Inland Trout and Salmon Guide)	\$27.00
Senior (65 or older)	\$10.80
Military (residents serving in the U.S. Military, who are stationed outside of Michigan) See below	\$1.00
Nonresident	
24 hr. (Good for all species for a designated 24-hour period)	\$7.00
Restricted (Good for all species EXCEPT trout and salmon)	\$30.00
All Species (Good for all species. Required on all designated trout streams and lakes. See the 2004 Inland Trout and Salmon Guide)	\$41.00
Voluntary	
Young Angler All Species (Good for all species). Residents or nonresidents under the age of 17	\$2.00

Sportsperson Discount

A 15 percent discount is provided when four or more licenses are purchased at one time for the same person. The 24-hour fishing license, all-species upgrade, waterfowl hunting license and restricted hunting applications are not eligible for this discount.

Lost Licenses

You may purchase a replacement license at any license dealer. You must provide the identification number used to purchase the original license. The cost of the replacement license will be determined at the license terminal.

All-species fishing licenses are required for all anglers, age 17 or older, to take and possess trout and salmon from any public waters. This license also is required when fishing the following waters:

- All trout lakes designated by the DNR under FO-200.04. (All Type A, all Type D and certain Type B lakes)
- All Type 5, 6 and 7 streams designated by the DNR under FO-200.04.
- All waters of the Great Lakes when trout and/or salmon are the target species.
- All designated trout streams (FO-210.04) when trout and/or salmon are the target species.
- Regulations for trout and salmon fishing on inland waters are in the *2004 Inland Trout and Salmon Guide*.

Before you go Fishing:

- You must purchase a license if you are 17 years of age or older.
 - You must have the license in your possession when fishing and the identification used to purchase that license.
 - Your fishing license is valid from March 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005.
- If you are under 17, you may fish without a license,
but you are required to observe all fishing rules and regulations.**

To purchase a fishing license, you must have:

- A valid Michigan Driver License.
- A valid Michigan ID Card (issued by the Secretary of State) with additional proof of Michigan residency, such as a Michigan voter registration card.
- A DNR Sportcard (issued by license dealers). If the information on your DNR Sportcard from a previous year is still accurate, you may continue to use it.

To qualify for a resident license, you must:

- Have a permanent residence in Michigan, or
 - Be a full time student at a Michigan college or university, or
 - Serve full time in the U.S. Military and be officially stationed in Michigan.
- The ownership of land in Michigan by itself is not qualification for a resident license.*

The following special provisions exist:

Residents serving in the Armed Forces: Persons serving in the U.S. Military, who, at the time of enlistment, were residents of Michigan and have maintained residence status for the purposes of obtaining a driver license or voting and who are stationed outside the state, **may purchase a resident all-species license for \$1** upon presentation of leave papers. This license, **available only at DNR Operations Service Centers (see page 24)**, is valid for up to two weeks during an open season. The license buyer can designate the exact fishing period.

Residents who are blind or disabled: A resident who is declared legally blind or a resident who has been determined by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs to be permanently and totally disabled and entitled to veteran benefits at the 100% rate (with proof of same) is eligible to purchase ANY of the **senior fishing licenses**.

Mentally Disabled persons: and **residents of a home for the aged** (licensed under the Public Health Code) **may fish without a license** if they are a member of a group, and accompanied by one or more licensed adults who possess a permit issued by the DNR. Permits are available at DNR Operations Service Centers (see p.24).

Lawful Fishing Methods

Bait: Any fish (except lampreys, live carp, and goldfish) and frogs may be used as bait when legally taken and possessed. Wigglers (mayfly nymphs) and other aquatic nymphs and larvae may also be used for bait, but may not be taken from any trout stream except for personal use on the same stream. Crayfish may be taken for bait for personal use. See special exceptions on Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters (page 11).

Bow Fishing: Bows may be used on certain waters for certain species. See pages 12-13.

Dip Nets: Dip nets may be used for bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers in non-trout streams. A permit is required from a DNR office if equipment is to be left overnight. See Table 4, Netting (page 10).

Gaffs: Gaffs may be used to help land lawfully hooked fish on all waters **except** on a trout stream.

Gear Restrictions: On all streams (including tributaries to the Great Lakes) from August 1st. through May 31st., it shall be unlawful to use multi-pointed hooks exceeding 3/8 inch between point and shank and/or single-pointed hooks exceeding 1/2 inch between point and shank. Also on all streams during this period it shall be unlawful to use lures exceeding one ounce. The Detroit River, St. Clair River and St. Marys River are exempt from these restrictions.

Hand Nets: Hand nets may be used to help land lawfully hooked fish. During April, May, and June, hand nets larger than 5 1/2 feet in circumference or having a handle exceeding 14 inches in length **may not** be used or possessed on designated trout streams except as provided in Table 4 (page 10). Hand nets may also be used to take bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers. See Table 4, General Netting Regulations (page 10).

Hook and line fishing: Fish so taken must be hooked in the mouth. Fish not hooked in the mouth must be returned to the water immediately. No more than two lines per person (including tip-ups) nor more than four hooks or lures may be used. **Except:** on Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Superior and the St. Marys River, those persons in the act of trolling while targeting trout/salmon may use 3 rods/lines and attach no more than six hooks total on all lines. *All hooks attached to an artificial bait or "night crawler harness" are counted as one hook. Hooks must be baited or attached to an artificial bait. You may use any number of hooks on one line for taking smelt in recognized smelt waters. Tip-ups and similar devices used for ice fishing must show the angler's name and address. All lines must be under immediate control. Hook size regulations exist on certain streams (see Exceptions to General Regulations by County (pages 14-17)).

Hoop Nets: May be used for burbot only on certain waters Dec. 15 - last day of Feb. Permit needed from a DNR office (ask for list FO-232).

Minnows For Personal Use: Minnows for personal use only may be taken with hook and line, seines, dip nets, and traps with a valid fishing license. In trout streams minnows may only be taken during the open season for trout by hook and line or minnow traps. Minnows may not be taken from Big Glen Lake, Hatlem Creek (Leelanau Co.), Portage Lake, Torch Lake, the North and South Portage Canal (Houghton Co.), in that portion of Lake Superior west of Big Bay Point or any of their tributaries for 1/2 mile above their mouths. Gear restrictions are as follows: Seines must not be over 12 feet by 4 feet; hand nets not over 8 feet square and without sides or walls; and minnow traps not over 24 inches long. Minnow traps must bear user's name and address. Cast nets (not exceeding 8 feet in diameter without walls or sides) may be used to take minnows, alewives, smelt, and shad in the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, and the Detroit R., St. Clair R., and St. Marys R.

Spearing: Hand, rubber, or spring-propelled spears may be used for certain species. See pages 12-13.

You May Not:

Possess or transport live Eurasian ruffe, tubenose goby, round goby, or live black carp *Mylopharyngodon piceus*, bighead carp *Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*, silver carp *Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*, or members of the family Channidae and genus *Channa*, also known as snakeheads.

Import, plant or transplant white amur (grass carp), live game fish, or viable eggs of game fish.

Buy or sell fish or parts of fish, reptiles, amphibians, or crayfish taken under a sport fishing license.

Take fish for the sole purpose of removing the eggs.

Take or attempt to take freshwater mussels (clams or other bivalves) whether living or dead, including the shell or parts thereof (except zebra mussels) from any waters of the state except under provisions of a cultural or scientific investigation permit from the DNR.

Take, attempt to take, or possess, any threatened or endangered species, except as authorized by the DNR.

Possess or sell a multi-pointed hook with a weight permanently attached.

Possess illegally taken fish or mutilated fish that cannot be measured or identified.

Possess more than the Michigan limit when fishing in Michigan waters even if holding licenses from more than one state or province.

Commercially take, possess, or sell rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*) in Michigan.

Fish for any species or possess fishing devices along a stream closed to fishing.

Fish with your hands, firearms, explosives, crossbows, setlines, poisons, or methods other than lawful fishing methods.

Fish anywhere in a fish ladder.

Use a net to take a fish within 100 ft. of a dam (you may use a landing net to secure a legally-hooked fish).

Use a seine for any species other than minnows.

Use cast nets in any inland water.

Possess a spear, gaff, or bow/arrow along a trout stream at any time.

Shoot reptiles or amphibians with a firearm (including spring, air, or gas propelled).

Have a weight rigidly attached to a multi-pointed hook; or suspended from a multi-point hook; or suspended below any hook *unless* the hook is on a dropper line (a leader) that is at least 3" long.

Deposit litter, fish offal, or any foreign matter, in any waters of the state or on any lands, private or public.

Take or attempt to take fish outside of the open season for that species.

Commercially harvest wigglers from any state waters from June 1st. to September 1st.

Snag fish or retain a fish not hooked in the mouth.

Table 1 Great Lakes Trout and Salmon Regulations (Note 1)

The following table refers to fishing for trout and salmon on the Great Lakes only for the following fish: Atlantic salmon, Brook trout (Note 2), Brown trout, Chinook salmon, Coho salmon, Lake trout (Note 4), Pink salmon, Rainbow trout (steelhead), and Splake. For regulations that pertain to fishing for trout and salmon on inland waters, please refer to the 2004 Inland Trout & Salmon Guide or at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Seasons by water type	Minimum Size	Daily/ Possession Limit (Notes 2, 3, 4)
Open all year: Lake Superior (Note 4) Lake Michigan (Note 3, 4) Lake Erie Lake Huron (Note 4) Lake St. Clair St. Marys R. St. Clair R. Detroit R.	10" (Note 2, 3, 4)	Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R.: 5 in any combination, but no more than 3 of any above listed species (UP TO 5 pink salmon allowed). (Notes 2,4) Exceptions: St. Marys R.: 5 additional pink salmon allowed from last Sat. in April through Sept. 30.

Note 1 - All Trout and Salmon: For waters that have regulations more restrictive (or liberal) than those shown in Table 1, refer to Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Regulations (page 11), and Exceptions to General Regulations by County (pages 14-17).

Note 2 - Brook Trout: Lake Superior, within 4.5 miles of Isle Royale (Isle Royale National Park waters), the minimum size limit is 18 inches, the possession limit is one, and the possession season is May 1 - Labor Day.

Note 3 - Inland Lakes: On the inland lakes listed below (by county), the regulations on the harvest of trout and salmon are as follows: 5 trout and salmon in any combination; no more than three of any one species; no more than 2 lake trout or splake; open all year **except** the lake trout season is open May 1 - Labor Day; minimum size limit is (10) ten inches. **Allegan:** Kalamazoo River and Silver Lake. **Benzie:** Betsie Lake. **Manistee:** Arcadia, Manistee, and Portage lakes. **Mason:** Pere Marquette Lake. **Muskegon:** Duck, Mona, Muskegon, and White lakes. **Oceana:** Pentwater, Silver, and Stony lakes. **Ottawa:** Macatawa and Pigeon lakes.

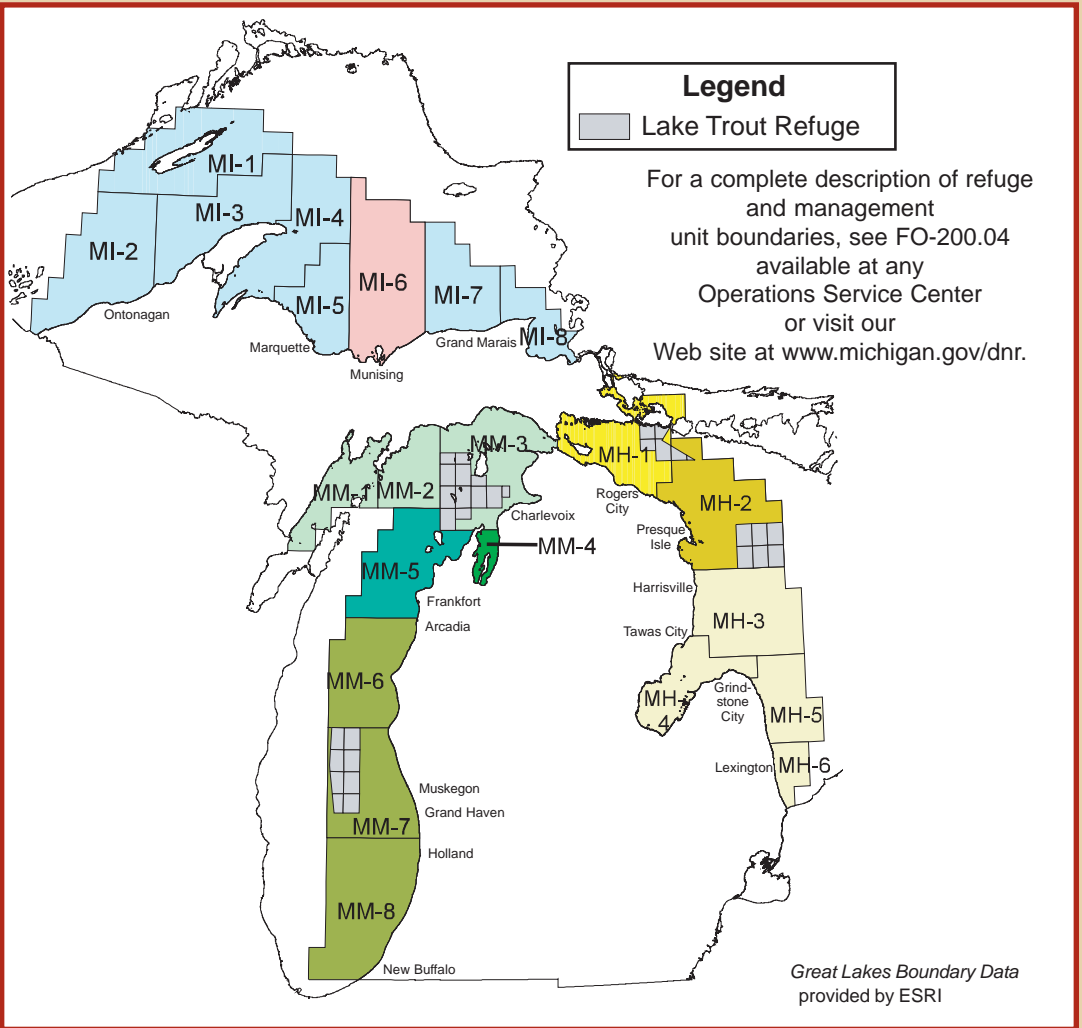
Note 4 - Lake Trout Regulations: Lake trout regulations for the Great Lakes are listed by Lake Trout Management Unit. To help identify Management Unit boundaries, a few major ports are listed for each. The map on next page provides a graphic to further define the boundaries. For a complete description of Management Unit boundaries, ask for FO-200.04 at any DNR Operations Service Center (page 24) or check online www.michigan.gov/dnr.

(NOTE: There is no closed season on splake in the Great Lakes. Unless otherwise noted, the minimum size limit for splake is 10 inches.)

Management Unit, Major Ports	Open Season	Size Restrictions	Daily limit
Lake Huron:			
MH 1: DeTour, Cedarville, St. Ignace, Mackinaw City, Cheboygan, Rogers City	May 1-Sept. 30	The minimum size limit is 15 inches and the maximum size limit is 19 inches. Fish less than 15 inches or greater than 19 inches may not be possessed and must be released, EXCEPT, one fish in the daily possession limit of three may be 34 inches or greater.	3 lake trout
MH 2: Presque Isle, Rockport, Alpena, Black River	May 1-Sept. 30	The minimum size limit is 22 inches.	3 lake trout
MH 3-6: Harrisville, Tawas, Grindstone, Harbor Beach, Lexington	May 1-Sept. 30	The minimum size limit is 15 inches.	3 lake trout
Lake Michigan:			
MM 1-3: Menominee, Escanaba, Manistique, Harbor Springs, Charlevoix	Jan. 1-Sept. 30	The minimum size limit for lake trout is 24 inches. NOTE: The minimum size for splake is 15 inches in the Lake Michigan waters of Delta and Menominee Cos.	3 lake trout
MM 4: Elk Rapids, Traverse City, Northport	Jan. 1-Sept. 30	The minimum size limit is 22 inches.	3 lake trout
MM 5: Leland, Frankfort, Platte Bay	May 1-Sept. 30	The minimum size limit is 24 inches.	3 lake trout
MM 6-8: Arcadia, Manistee, Ludington, Grand Haven, Holland, New Buffalo	May 1-Sept. 30	The minimum size limit is 20 inches.	3 lake trout
Lake Superior:			
MI 1-8 (EXCEPT MI 6): Windigo, Ontonagon, Copper Harbor, Big Bay, Marquette, Grand Marais, Pendaris Bay, Brimley State Park	Open all year	The minimum size limit is 15 inches.	3 lake trout
MI 6: Au Train, Munising	Open all year	The minimum size limit shall be 15 inches and the maximum size limit shall be 29 inches, EXCEPT that one fish in the daily possession limit may be 34 inches or greater in length. Fish that are greater than 29 inches and less than 34 inches may not be retained.	2 lake trout

Lake Trout Management Units and Refuges

For Lake Trout Regulations See Previous Page



Commercial and Native American Fishing

Anglers and boaters on the Great Lakes may encounter commercial trap nets, gill nets and hook lines in most Michigan waters. State-licensed commercial fishing has been regulated since 1865; Native American commercial fishing rights, granted in treaties between the tribes and the U.S. Government, are regulated by agreements between the tribes and the state of Michigan under Federal Court Order.

All state-licensed or Native American commercial gear is required to be marked with floats and or staff/flag combinations. Anglers and boaters should give wide berth to any markers, since anchor lines may extend several hundred feet in any direction from the floats or flags and along the length of the gear. The diagrams below can assist sport anglers and boaters in avoiding entanglement of fishing gear or boat propellers.

Tampering with commercial fishing gear is illegal. Removal or destruction of marker buoys and flags or other disturbance of gear often results in the waste of a valuable resource, since the nets continue to catch fish. They also can create safety problems for others on the water.

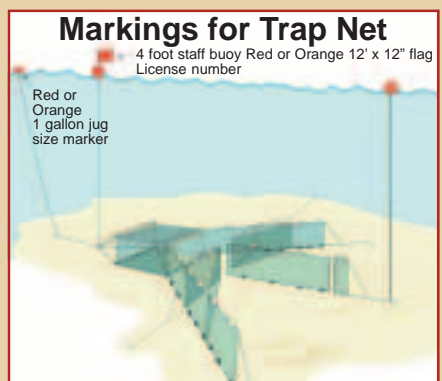
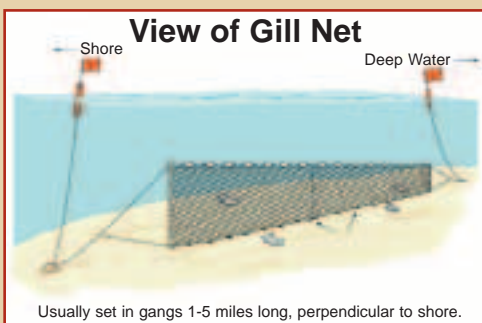


Table 2 **General Hook & Line Regulations** **Coolwater Fish (Note 1)**

Species	Seasons	Minimum Size	Daily/ Possession Limit
Largemouth bass Smallmouth bass (Note 2)	3rd. Sat. in June - Dec. 31: L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R. Sat. before Memorial Day - Dec. 31: All other waters including Great Lakes (except those listed in note 2)	14"	5 in any combination but no more than 2 northern pike
Walleye (Note 3)	May 15 - February 28: On Upper Pen. inland waters not otherwise closed to fishing, Gr. Lakes waters and St. Marys R. Last Sat. in April - March 15: On Lower Pen. inland waters not otherwise closed to fishing.	15" except 13" on L. St. Clair St. Clair R.	
Northern pike (Note 7 & 8)	Open all year(except L. Erie Note 3): Lower Pen. Gr. Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R.	24"	
Flathead catfish	Open all year	15"	
Channel catfish		12"	10
Muskellunge (Note 7 & 8)	May 15 - February 28: Upper Pen. inland and Gr. Lakes waters St. Marys R. Last Sat. in April - March 15: Lower Pen. inland waters Open all year: Lower Pen. waters of L. Michigan Lower Pen. waters of L. Huron L. Erie 1st Sat. in June - Dec. 15: L. St. Clair St.Clair R. Detroit R.	42"	1
Yellow perch (Note 4)	Open all year	No size limit	50
Sunfishes (Note 5)			25 in any combination of the listed species
White bass			25 on Gr. Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Mary's R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R. 10 on inland
Lake whitefish Lake herring (cisco)			12 in any combination
Lake Sturgeon	Please see Table 3 for Lake Sturgeon Regulations		
All others (Note 6)	Open all year	No size limit	No possession limit

Notes for Table 2

Note 1 - All Coolwater fish

Coolwater fish include all species listed in this table. For easy identification of species see pages 22-23. Some waters may have other more restrictive regulations. Refer to Sylvania Wilderness Area (page 12), Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters (page 11), Michigan-Indiana Bordering Lakes (page 12), Note 7 (page 9), Note 8 (page 10), and Exceptions to General Regulations by County (pages 14-17). **Also refer to the 2004 Michigan Inland Trout and Salmon Guide** for regulations on trout streams and lakes.

Note 2 - Bass

For catch and release largemouth and smallmouth bass season on select waters in **Genesee, Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oakland** counties, see Exceptions to General Regulations by County (page 14). On **Lake Michigan**, within one-half mile of the following islands of the Beaver Island Archipelago: Beaver, Garden, High and Hog, (Charlevoix Cty.) the open season is July 1 - Dec. 31.

Note 3 - Walleye

Little Bay de Noc (Delta Co.): No more than 1 walleye over 23" may be possessed north of a line drawn from Peninsula Point lighthouse to the mouth of the Ford R.

St. Joseph R. No more than 1 walleye over 23" may be possessed from the St. Joseph R. below Berrien Springs Dam to the mouth at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor.

L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.: One additional walleye may be taken in these waters.

L. Erie: The open season for walleye shall be June 1 to March 31.

Note 4 - Yellow perch

L. Huron waters of Mackinac and Chippewa Cos. and the **St. Marys R.**, the minimum size limit is 7".

L. Michigan south of the 45th parallel (excluding the Grand Traverse Bays) the possession limit is 35 perch.

Note 5 - Sunfishes

Includes: black and white crappies, bluegill, green and hybrid sunfish, longear, pumpkinseed, redear, rock bass, and warmouth.

Note 6 - All others - Except Lake Sturgeon

Those species not listed above and not listed in Table 1 (p.6). **For Lake Sturgeon regulations see p.10.**

Note 7 - Special Northern Pike & Muskellunge Regulations

WASHTENAW: Horseshoe L. northern pike possession limit is 1.

Lakes with no size limit on Northern Pike, daily limit of 5 fish:

ALCONA: Badger L.

ALGER: Nawakwa, Trout, and 16 Mile Lks.

ALLEGAN: Pine Creek Flooding

BARAGA: Vermillac (Worm) L.

CHARLEVOIX: Deer, Fox, Geneserath, Hoffman and Six Mile Lks.

CHEBOYGAN: Black R. and tributaries above Tower Dam, Silver and Wildwood Lks.

CHIPPEWA: Frenchman L.

DELTA: Carr, Chicago, and Hamilton Lks. and Escanaba R.

DICKINSON: Pickeral and Sawyer Lks.

EMMET: French Farm and O'Neal L. Floodings

GOGEBIC: African (Big and Little), Chaney, Cisco, Clearwater, East Bay, Fishhawk, Indian, Lindsley, Morley, Poor, Record, and Thousand Island Lks.

GRAND TRAVERSE: Boardman L. and L. Dubonnet

HOUGHTON: Rice L.

IRON: Bone, Buck, Indian, Runkle and Winslow Lks., Hemlock Falls and Michigamme Reservoirs, Michigamme Falls and Peavy Reservoirs, Lake St. Kathryn, Deer R., Net R., and Net R. Wide Waters.

KEWEENAW: Schlatter L.

LEELANAU: Florence L. (S. Manitou Is.), artificial lures only

LUCE: East and Muskallonge Lks.

MACKINAC: East L.

MARQUETTE: Cedar L., Engman L., Dead R. Storage Basin, Witch L., Middle Br. Escanaba R., Big West Br. Escanaba R., and Escanaba R. (upstream from dam 1, the first dam on the Escanaba R. upstream 1.8 miles from mouth - Little Bay de Noc at US. 2).

MASON: Hamlin L. and Hackert L. (Crystal L.)

MECOSTA: Haymarsh L.

MENOMINEE: Westman Impoundment

MISSAUKEE: Missaukee L.

MONTMORENCY: East and West Town Corner Lks., Black River and tributaries

MUSKEGON: Big Blue L.

OCEANA: Silver L.

OSCEOLA: L. Miramichi, Rose L. and Wells L.

OTSEGO: Black R. and tributaries

PRESQUE ISLE: Francis L., Ocqueoc R. watershed above Ocqueoc Lk. (all waters), Black R. and tributaries,

ROSCOMMON: L. St. Helen, Backus Cr., Mud L., and Little Mud L. Waterfowl Flooding

SCHOOLCRAFT: Boot, Crooked, Kennedy, Stanley and Thunder Lks.

WEXFORD: L. Meauwataka

Lakes with 30" minimum size on Northern Pike:

ALGER: Duck and Echo Lks. (Grand Island) possession limit of 1 northern pike.

BARRY: Fish L.

IRON: Cable and Porter Lks.

KEWEENAW: Gratiot L.

MARQUETTE: Fish L.

SCHOOLCRAFT: Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks.

Lakes with Northern Pike and Muskellunge seasons the last Saturday in April - Nov. 30:

BARRY: Thornapple L. (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.) minimum size on muskellunge is 50".

KALAMAZOO: Austin, Crooked, and West Lks.

LAKE: Big Star L.

LENAWEE: L. Hudson

VAN BUREN: Bankson L., Brownwood L., and Round L. (Keeler Twp. T4S, R16W, Sec. 13), **Seney National Wildlife Refuge ponds:** On the BIG ISLAND COMPLEX LAKES of Big Island, Bluegill, Blush, Byers, Coattail, Klondyke, McInnes, Mid, Townline, and Vance, artificial lures only, muskellunge or northern pike minimum size limit is 42" and possession limit is 1.

Notes for Table 2 continued —

Note 8 - Spearing Ban on Northern Pike & Muskellunge Lakes

The following lakes are closed to all spearing except as noted: all waters open to spearing carp May 1 – Aug. 15. See also Exceptions to General Regulations by County (pages 14-17), Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (page 11), and Sylvania Wilderness Area Regulations (page 12).

Lakes closed to spearing (except carp may be speared May 1 – August 15):

ALLEGAN: Osterhout L.	LENAWEE: L. Hudson
ALPENA: Fletcher Floodwaters	LIVINGSTON: Whitmore and Woodland Lks.
BARRY: Clear, Crooked, Fish, and Lower Lks. and Thornapple Lk. (No spearing from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.)	MACKINAC: Brevport L.
CHEBOYGAN: Cornwall Impoundment	MARQUETTE: Fish L.
CHIPPEWA: Caribou L.	MONTMORENCY: Fletcher Floodwaters and West Twin Lks.
CLARE: Budd L.	MUSKEGON: Mona L.
CLINTON: Ovid L.	OAKLAND: Heron and Tipsico Lks.
IRON: Cable, Emily, Porter, and Stanley Lks.	OTSEGO: Big Bear and Otsego Lks.
KALAMAZOO: Austin, Crooked, and Eagle (Texas Twp.) Lks.	OTTAWA: L. Macatawa
KENT: Campau and Murray Lks.	SCHOOLCRAFT: Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks.
KEWEENAW: Gratiot L.	ST. JOSEPH: Long L. (Fabius Twp. T6S, R12W, sec 7)
LAKE: Big Star L.	VAN BUREN: Bankson L., Brownwood L., and Round L. (Keeler Twp. T4S, R16W, Sec. 13)
LAPEER: Nepessing L.	WASHTENAW: Whitmore L.

Lakes where Northern Pike may be speared January 1 – February 28: **CHEBOYGAN:** Tower Pond
DELTA: Dana L. **IRON:** Brule, Chicagon, Chief Edwards, Paint, Paint Pond, and Violet Lks.

Table 3 Lake Sturgeon
Hook & Line only (*Except Black L. Cheboygan Co., special spearing season)

Open Season	Gear, Harvest, and Size Restrictions	
July 16 - Nov. 30 Great Lakes and connecting waters (except Lake St. Clair and St. Clair R.), all inland waters except Otsego L. & Black L. (Cheboygan Co.)	Catch and release only No possession	
July 16 - Sept. 30 Lake St. Clair and St. Clair R.	Between 42" - 50". All fish less than 42" and greater than 50" must be released immediately. (Note 1)	1 per season
July 16 - Mar. 15 Otsego L. (Otsego Co.)	50" minimum (Note 1)	1 per season
Sept. 6 - Nov. 1 All MI-WI boundary waters	70" minimum (Note 1, See Table 5)	1 per season
First Saturday in Feb. to Sunday following the second Saturday Black L. (Cheboygan Co.)	Lottery Draw Only - 5 fish quota for the season Tags will be issued by random drawing. Contact DNR Gaylord office 989-732-3541 for details	
*Spearing for lake sturgeon is prohibited, except in Black L. (Cheboygan Co.) under special lottery permit. Note1: A locking harvest tag must be obtained prior to fishing. Successful anglers must tag the fish and register it immediately (within 24 hrs.) at a designated registration station, contact DNR for locations and to obtain a tag.		

Table 4 General Netting Regulations

The following gear restrictions apply for the species, seasons and water listed below:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Hand Nets may be of any circumference and handle length.● Dip Nets may not exceed 9 x 9 feet square nor be erected or fished within 100 feet of any dam.● Seines may only be used for minnows except under a scientific collector's permit issued by the DNR. FO-229 is available from DNR Operations Service Centers (page 24).		
Species	Seasons	Nets and Waters
Bowfin Carp Gar Smelt Suckers	Mar. 1 - May 31	Hand Nets: South of M-72 Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., and Detroit R., and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229)
	April 1 - May 31	Hand Nets: North of M-72 (inc. Upper Peninsula) Great Lakes, St. Marys R. and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229)
	April 1 - May 31	Dip Nets: All Lower Peninsula non-trout streams
	May 1 - May 31	Dip Nets: All Upper Peninsula non-trout streams
Burbot	Dec. 15 - end of Feb.	Hoop Nets: Permit required from MDNR office. Peshekee R. (Marquette Co.); AuTrain R. (Alger Co.) from AuTrain L. to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Baraga Co.) from M-38 bridge to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Houghton Co.)

Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Water Regulations

The following regulations govern fishing in the inland waters that form a common boundary between the states of Michigan and Wisconsin. These rules and regulations supersede all others governing fishing on Michigan/ Wisconsin boundary waters that in any way conflict. Where regulations of Michigan and Wisconsin differ, persons shall comply with the regulations of the state in whose territorial waters they are fishing.

The interstate boundary waters in which fishing is to be governed by the special regulations are: **The Lake Michigan waters between the breakwalls at the mouth of the Menominee River beginning at an imaginary line drawn between the most lakeward point of each breakwall. Menominee River, its sloughs and impoundments** (Menominee, Dickinson, Iron Counties, Michigan; Florence, Marinette Counties, Wisconsin); **Brule River** (Iron County, Michigan; Florence and Forest Counties, Wisconsin); **Brule Island Impoundment**, upstream to a line running east-west through the first island upstream from the junction of the **Brule and Paint Rivers** (Iron County, Michigan; Florence County, Wisconsin); **Smoky Lake** (Iron County, Michigan; Vilas County, Wisconsin); **Norwood Lake, Lac Vieux Desert, Crystal Lake, Mill Lake, Big Bateau Lake, Mamie Lake, West Bay Lake, Big Lake, Crampton Lake, Plum Lake, Tenderfoot Lake, Roach Lake, Little Presque Isle Lake, Cyrus Lake, Basin Lake, Stateline Lake** (Gogebic County, Michigan; Vilas County, Wisconsin); **East Fork Montreal River up to the mouth of Layman Creek** (Gogebic County, Michigan; Iron County, Wisconsin); **Montreal River**, (Gogebic County, Michigan; Iron County, Wisconsin).

Legal fishing methods

- Up to three lines per person with a total of three (3) hooks or baits may be used.
- Lines must be attended at all times.
- Dip nets not exceeding nine (9) feet square or in diameter, without walls may be used in the Menominee River from April 1 to May 14 for taking of suckers, redhorse, carp, smelt, and burbot (**except** from Hattie Street Bridge in Marinette-Menominee to the first dam upstream and within 200 feet of all other dams).
- Fish shanties used in ice fishing must be legibly marked with the name and address of owner. In Wisconsin boundary waters, fish shanty doors cannot be locked from inside during occupancy.
- You may fish from a motorboat with the motor running or a sailboat under sail except in Wisconsin boundary waters of Vilas County.
- All residents of Michigan and Wisconsin holding a sport fishing license from their respective state or residents of other states who possess a sport fishing license issued by Michigan or Wisconsin may fish in the boundary waters.
- Crayfish may not be possessed or used for bait on Michigan-Wisconsin boundary waters.

Table 5 Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (Hook & Line)

Species (Note 1)	Water	Season	Minimum Size (inches)	Possession Limit
Trout , Salmon	Smoky L., Montreal R., and Menominee R. mouths to 1st dam.	Open all year	10"	5
	Menominee R. and Montreal R. above 1st dam. Brule R. mouth to U.S. 2	Last Sat. in April - Sept. 30	7"	
	Brule R. above U.S. 2 bridge		Brook Trout 8" Brown Trout 12"	
Smallmouth bass Largemouth bass	All boundary waters	1st Sat. in May - Fri. before 3rd Sat. in June	catch and release	
		3rd Sat. in June - Nov. 30	14"	5 in combination
Walleye, Sauger	All boundary waters except rivers and impoundments	May 3 - March 1	15"	5 in combination
	All rivers and impoundments	March 2 - May 2		1
		May 3 - March 1		5 in combination
Northern pike	All boundary waters	May 3 - March 1	none	5
Bluegills, Crappies, Sunfish, Yellow perch	All boundary waters	Open all year	none	25 in combination
Muskellunge	All boundary waters	May 15 - Nov. 30	40"	1
Lake Sturgeon* (See Table 3)	All boundary waters	Sept. 6 - Nov. 1	70"	1 per season
Channel catfish	All boundary waters	Open all year	none	10
All others	All boundary waters	Open all year	none	none

Note 1: No fishing during the closed season on trout in the **Brule R.** upstream from U.S. Hwy 2 bridge (T41N, R32W, Sec. 9) Iron Co., MI and the **Montreal R.** above Superior Falls flowage. *A locking harvest tag must be obtained prior to fishing. Successful anglers must tag the fish and register it immediately (within 24 hrs.) at a designated registration station, contact DNR for locations and to obtain a tag.

Michigan-Indiana Bordering Lakes

Residents of either the State of Indiana or the State of Michigan, fishing in any of the waters listed below and who possess a valid fishing license for either state, shall be permitted to fish therein only in accordance with the laws and regulations of the state having jurisdiction over that portion of the waters in which fishing is done.

Clear Lake - Indiana, St. Joseph County/**South Clear Lake** - Michigan, Berrien County

Indian Lake - Indiana, Elkhart County/Michigan, Cass County

Fish Lake - Indiana, La Grange County/Michigan, St. Joseph County

Lake George - Indiana, Steuben County/Michigan, Branch County

Long Lake - Indiana, Steuben County/Michigan, Hillsdale County

Sylvania Wilderness Area Regulations

Special Provision Lakes — Gogebic County

The following special provision lakes are subject to the regulations that follow: Banks, East Bear, West Bear, Clark, Corey, Cub, Deer Island, Dorothy, Elsie, Fisher, Florence, Germain, Glimmerglass, Golden Silence, Hay, Helen, High, Honey, Jay, Johnston Springs, Katherine, Kerr, Liluis, Lois, Loon, Louise, Marsh, Moss, Mountain, Snap Jack, Trapper, and Whitefish Lakes.

Seasons

Statewide seasons apply on all fish species except that no fishing shall be allowed before the last Saturday in April or after October 31 of each year.

Size Limits

- Lake trout: not less than 30 inches.
- Walleye: not less than 20 inches.
- Northern pike: not less than 30 inches.
- All other species: no size limit.

Possession Limits

- Largemouth or smallmouth bass must be returned immediately to the water without injury, and may not be possessed on the special provision lakes of the Sylvania Wilderness Area.
- Northern pike, walleye, lake trout: not more than 1 fish of any of these species.
- All other species: 10 singly or in any combination of species.

Method of Take

- Hook and line fishing only, not to exceed 2 single lines, or 2 single rods and lines, or a single line and a single rod and line, to which may be attached not to exceed a total of 4 hooks on all lines. All hooks attached to a manufactured artificial lure shall be counted as 1 hook.
- Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. "Artificial lure" means any lure that is man-made, in imitation of or as a substitute for natural bait, used to attract fish for the purpose of taking them, and shall include artificial flies.
- Live bait, dead or preserved bait, organic or processed food, or scented material may not be used or possessed at any time on special provision Sylvania Wilderness Area lakes.

Statewide Bow and Spear Fishing Regulations

A hand-propelled spear may be used on the following waters. In addition, a bow, light, spring-propelled or rubber-propelled spear may be used as indicated. Size and possession limits are the same as for General Hook and Line Regulations – Table 2 (p. 8); inland non-trout waters are those inland waters except Designated Trout Lakes (*see FO-200.04) and Designated Trout Streams (see FO-210.04); For exceptions to these regulations, see Note 8 - Spearing Ban on Northern Pike and Muskellunge Lakes (p.10), Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p.14-17), Sylvania Wilderness Area (above), and Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Regulations (p.11).

Hand-propelled Spear may be used

Waters Open All Year:

Great Lakes: Burbot.

Waters listed in FO-219 (as open to the use of rubber-propelled or spring-propelled spears when used as noted in FO-219 list): Bowfin, Carp, Gar, and Suckers.

Waters Open January – February:

All waters (through the ice) except: Designated Trout Lakes (*see above), Streams (FO-200.04), and Note 8 - Spearing Ban on Northern Pike and Muskellunge Lakes (p.10): Northern Pike and Muskellunge.
NO MUSKELLUNGE Spearing on L. St. Clair, L. Erie, Detroit R., and St. Clair R.

Bow may be used

Waters Open January – February:

Lake St. Clair: Yellow perch.

Light may be used

Waters Open October 15 – Dec. 31:

Hubbard L. (Alcona Co.): Carp, Lake Herring (cisco), Suckers, and Whitefish.

Ottawa L. and Chicagon L. (Iron Co.): Carp, Lake Herring (cisco), Suckers, and Whitefish.

Light may be used continued—

Waters Open November 1 – December 31:

Elk L. (Grand Traverse Co.): Carp, Lake Herring (cisco), Suckers, and Whitefish.

Torch L. (Antrim Co.): Carp, Lake Herring (cisco), Suckers, and Whitefish.

Clam R. (Kalkaska Co.): Carp, Lake Herring (cisco), Suckers, and Whitefish.

Crystal L. (Benzie Co.): Carp, Lake Herring (cisco), Suckers, and Whitefish.

All inland non-trout waters in Lower Peninsula counties wholly south of M-20 (including all of Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola counties): Carp, Lake Herring (cisco), Suckers, and Whitefish.

Bow and Light may be used

Waters Open All Year:

Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R.: Bowfin, Bullheads, Carp, Catfish, Drum, Gar, Lake Herring (cisco), Smelt, Suckers, and Whitefish. **HOWEVER, in Little Bay de Noc:** Bowfin, Carp, and Gar may be speared only in January and February. **In Lakes Superior, Huron, and Michigan:** Whitefish may not be speared during November.

Waters Open January – February:

Inland non-trout waters (through the ice, see Note 8, (page 10): Bowfin, Bullheads, Carp, Catfish, Drum, Gar, Lake Herring (cisco), Smelt, Suckers, and Whitefish.

Waters Open April 1 – May 31 South of Hwy. M-46:

All non-trout streams and Trout streams listed in FO-219: Bowfin, Carp, Gar, and Suckers.

Waters Open April 15 – May 31 Between M-46 and M-72:

All non-trout streams and Trout streams listed in FO-219: Bowfin, Carp, Gar, and Suckers.

Waters Open May 1 – May 31 North of Hwy. M-72:

All non-trout streams and Trout streams listed in FO-219: Bowfin, Carp, Gar, and Suckers.

Waters Open May 1 – August 15:

Inland non-trout waters: Bowfin, Carp, Gar.

Table 6 Amphibians and Reptiles General Regulations
Frogs, Toads, Salamanders, Turtles, Lizards and Snakes

Amphibians and reptiles MAY NOT be shot with firearms (including spring, air, or gas propelled) or bow and arrow. The following shall not be taken or possessed except as authorized by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources: Blandings, spotted, wood, and eastern box turtle; black rat snake, eastern fox snake, copperbelly watersnake, kirtlands snake and massasauga rattlesnake; boreal chorus frog, Blanchards cricket frog; smallmouth salamander, marbled salamander; all reptile eggs; and amphibians and reptiles protected under Part 365 (Endangered Species) of 1994 P.A. 451. For further information, ask for list FO-224. Personal Use: A fishing license is required to take frogs and turtles for personal use and as such may not be bought, sold, or offered for sale. Hand, trap, nets, seines (up to 12 x 4 feet overall dimensions), and hook and line may be used. Set lines may not be used to take turtles. Frogs may be speared but NOT with the aid of an artificial light. Traps used (or possessed) in areas frequented by reptiles must have a plate or tag attached bearing the name and address of the user in legible English. For taking turtles, no more than three (3) traps may be used, mesh traps must be no less than one (1) inch mesh, and traps must be set to allow turtles to surface and breathe. Commercial Use: A commercial amphibian and reptile license is required to take turtles and frogs for commercial sale. The take is restricted to snapping turtles and green frogs (<i>Rana clamitans</i>). License applications are available from DNR Customer Services (517- 373-1204).				
Species	Season	Minimum Size (inches)	Possession Limit	
			Personal Use	Commerical Use
Frogs and Toads	Last Sat. in May - Nov. 15	none	10 in any combination	0
Green frogs (Rana clamitans)				25 per day 50 total
Salamanders & Mudpuppies				0
Snapping turtles	Upper Peninsula July 15 - Sept. 30	12" minimum carapace length	3 per day 6 total	10 per day 50 total
Soft shell turtles	Lower Peninsula July 1 - Sept. 30	none	3 per day in any combination	0
** All other turtles, snakes, and lizards	Open all year		6 total in any combination	

** Except as noted above.

Exceptions to General Regulations by County

Many water bodies have special regulations that differ from the general regulations for Hook and Line Fishing (Table 2, page 8), General Netting Regulations (Table 4, page 10), and Statewide Bow and Spear Fishing (pages 12-13). The following is a list of waters, organized by county, with special regulations **that are NOT included in the following sections of the Fishing Guide**: General Regulations tables cited above; Michigan-Indiana Bordering Lakes (page 12); Sylvania Wilderness Area Regulations (page 12); and Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Regulations (page 11).

ALGER: **Towes Cr. and W. Br. Whitefish R.** from lamprey barrier to signs 500 ft. downstream open to dipping Apr. 1-May 31. **Au Train R. to Au Train Lk.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15-Feb. 28. **Rock R.** closed to fishing from dam to lower foot bridge downstream from M-28 (T47N, R21W, Sec. 15) April 1- June 30. **Duck and Echo Lks.** (Grand Island) fishing restricted to artificial lures only; live, dead, or preserved baits, scented material, or organic food may not be used; catch and release on smallmouth bass; possession limit on all other species is 5 fish in any combination.

ALLEGAN: **Swan Creek** from mouth to dam at 118th Ave. fishing restricted to one single-pointed unweighted hook not more than 3/8" from point to shank; from mouth upstream to diversion dam ("The Tubes", T2N, R14W, Sec. 9) closed to fishing Sept. 1-Nov. 30. **Dumont and Osterhout Lks.** carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

ALPENA: **Beaver Lk. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Fletcher Floodwaters** carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to spearing all other species.

ANTRIM: **Birch Lk. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Intermediate River** closed to fishing from Bellaire Dam to M-88 Bridge April 1-May 14.

ARENAC: **Saganing Ck.** (upstream from State Rd.) and **Pine R.** (upstream from State Rd.) closed to fishing Mar. 16 - Friday before last Sat. in April. **AuGres R. and Rifle R.** [from end of Steve's Rd., (T19N, R5E, Sec. 9), upstream] are closed to dip netting.

BARAGA: **CRAIG LAKE STATE PARK** waters (**Clair, Craig, Crooked, Keewayden, Nelligan, Teddy, and Thomas Lks.**) artificial lures only; northern pike, muskellunge, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass must be released, minimum size on walleye is 13", no size limit on other species; possession limit on walleye is 2; otherwise, all general rules apply. Motor boats of all types prohibited on all except Thomas and Keewayden Lks.; **Sturgeon River** from Prickett Dam downstream to mouth of Clear Creek (T50N, R35W, Sec. 12) closed to all fishing Apr. 1- June 30; open to burbot netting downstream from the M-38 Bridge Dec. 15- Feb. 28.

BARRY: **Clear and Lower Crooked Lks.** carp may be speared May 1- Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Prairieville Creek** from the mouth at Gull Lake up to M-43 closed to fishing Sept.1- May 31. **Williams Lk.** open season is April 1- Dec 15, catch and release only.

BAY: **Kawkawlin River** and all tributaries upstream of Euclid Ave., and **Saganing Creek** (upstream from State Rd.) and **Pine R.** (upstream from State Rd.) closed to fishing Mar. 16 through the Friday before the last Sat. in April. On the **Saginaw River** upstream from LaFayette St. Bridge in Bay City and all tributaries, the following regulations apply from March 16 through the Friday before the last Saturday in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnow baits may be used on the **Saginaw R.** only); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be attached rigidly to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

BENZIE: **Platte R.** restricted to only one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank; closed to fishing within 300 ft. of upper (hatchery) and lower weir all year; closed to fishing from upper weir downstream to Platte Lake Jan 1- March 31. **Betsie River** closed to fishing all year within 100 feet of lamprey barrier and fish passage facility (T25N, R15W, Sec. 2). **Cold Cr.** closed to dip netting.

BERRIEN: No more than 1 walleye 23" or larger may be possessed from the **St. Joseph R.** below Berrien Springs dam to the mouth at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor.

CASS: **Corey and Stone Lks.**, minimum size limit on largemouth bass is 10".

CHARLEVOIX: **Lk. Charlevoix** and tributaries to 1/2 mile above their mouth open to hand nets for bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers, Apr. 1-May 31. **Medusa Cr.** and area of Lk. Michigan for a radius of 100' of mouth closed to fishing when weir is in place. **Boyne R.** from mouth upstream to dam in T32N, R5W, Sec. 5 restricted to one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank. On Lake Michigan, within one-half mile of the following islands of the Beaver Island Archipelago; Beaver, Garden, High and Hog (Charlevoix Co.) the open season for largemouth and smallmouth bass is July 1- Dec. 31.

CHEBOYGAN: **Cheboygan R., Indian R., or Black R.** unlawful to fish during April and May with spear, bow and arrow, dip net, or gaff. **Black R.** between Kleber Dam and Red Bridge (T35N, R1E, Sec. 5) unlawful to fish in any manner during April and May. **Lower Black R.** from Alverno Dam down to Mograin Bridge, no fishing Apr. 1-May 15. **Black L.** and tributaries no commercial minnow take; Sturgeon fishing prohibited except under special lottery permit, see page 10. **Douglas Lk. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing when marsh is in operation. **Cornwall Impoundment** carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **Hemlock Lk.** no fishing.

CHIPPEWA: **Potagannissing River** from Potagannissing Dam downstream to Maxton Rd. (T42N, R6E, Sec. 15) closed to fishing Mar. 16-May 14. **Lake Huron and St. Marys River**, yellow perch minimum size is 7". **Caribou Lk.**, carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

CLARE: Budd L., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

CLINTON: Lk. Ovid, carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

CRAWFORD: Wakeley Lk. open season June 15-Aug. 31, catch and release fishing with artificial lures; live bait in possession is unlawful.

DELTA: Dana Lk., carp may be speared May 1- Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **Days R.** from lamprey barrier downstream 500', **Escanaba R.** from mouth upstream to 1st dam, **Ford R.** downstream from Jaeger Rd., **Rapid R.** from Rapid R. falls down to County Rd. S. 15, open to hand nets for smelt and suckers Apr. 1 - May 31. **Whitefish R.** downstream from US-2 walleye season May 15-Feb. 28; possession limit 5, but no more than 1 over 23". **Little Bay de Noc**-north of the Saunders Pt.-Squaw Pt. line and tributaries, spearing is permitted only during Jan. & Feb. **Little Bay de Noc** north of a line from Peninsula Point lighthouse to the mouth of the Ford R.; walleye possession limit 5, but no more than 1 over 23". **Garden Corners Borrow Pit** (T40N, R18W, Sec. 3) & **Rapid R. Borrow Pit** (T41N, R21W, Sec. 34) closed to fishing all year. **Lake Michigan** the minimum size limit on splake is 15" on the Lake Michigan waters of Delta County.

DICKINSON: Fumee Lk. County ordinance currently prohibits access for the purpose of fishing. However, the following regulations remain in effect: open season July 1-Sept. 30; catch and release only; artificial lures with barbless hooks only; live bait, dead or prepared bait, organic or processed food, or scented material may not be used or possessed on the waters or shore. **Hamilton, Louise, and Mary Lks.**, possession limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass from the last Sat. in May through June 20 is 0. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.11).

EMMET: Bear R. from mouth upstream to Howard Rd. Bridge (T34N, R5W, Sec. 6) restricted to one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank.

GENESEE: Holloway Res. catch and release fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass is Apr. 1- Friday before Memorial Day. **Flint River** downstream from the Hamilton St. Dam in Flint and all tributaries, the following regulations apply from March 16 through the Friday before the last Saturday in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows; natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be rigidly attached to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

GRAND TRAVERSE: Boardman R. closed to fishing whenever weir is in place from 300' above to 300' below; closed to fishing Sept. 1-Oct. 31 from north Union Street bridge in Traverse City downstream to US-31 Highway bridge. **Unnamed Cr.** closed to dip netting from Green Lk. upstream to Bridges Lk.

HOUGHTON: Portage Lk. Ship Canal spearing permitted in Jan., Feb. only. **Portage Lk.** and canal, **Torch Lk.** for 1/2-mile above mouth open to dip netting Apr. 1-May 31. **Surgeon R.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15-Feb. 28.

IONIA: Woodard Lk. possession limit for walleye is 0.

IOSCO: AuGres R. from M-65 to mouth dip netting prohibited. **Au Gres R.** from 50' upstream of Allen Rd. bridge to 500' downstream closed to all fishing Mar. 16 - Friday before last Sat. in April. **E. Br. AuGres R.** between MDNR lamprey barrier and Legget Rd. closed to fishing Dec. 1-Friday before last Sat. in April. **AuSable R.** from Foote Dam (including the apron) to 175' downstream from the dam closed to fishing all year. **Van Etten Cr.** from dam at Van Etten Lk. to mouth at Au Sable R. closed to fishing Aug. 15 -Nov. 30.

IRON: Brule, Chicagon, Chief Edwards, Emily, Paint, Stanley, and Violet Lks., and Paint Pond, carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **Stager L.** walleye possession limit is one 18" or larger. **Winslow L.** walleye possession limit is 0. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.11). **Chicagon and Ottawa Lks.**, daily limit of 5 whitefish.

ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK (phone # 906-482-0984): Michigan fishing laws apply and State license required on Lk. Superior waters of park. Artificial baits only on inland waters. On Lk. Superior, within 4.5 miles of Isle Royale, the minimum size limit on brook trout is 18", the possession limit is 1, and the possession season is May 1 - Labor Day.

KALAMAZOO: Austin, Crooked, and West Lks., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug 15; closed to other spearing.

KENT: Campau and Murray Lks., carp may be speared May 1- Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **Long L.** (T10N, R11W, Sec. 31) possession limit for walleye is 0.

LAKE: Baldwin R. from Upper Dam at Old Baldwin Hatchery site downstream to the P.A.S. south boundary fence, including raceways (T17N, R13 W, Sec. 3), closed to all fishing Tues. following Labor Day until the last Sat. in April.

LAPEER: Nepessing Lk. carp may be speared May 1- Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

LEELANAU: Leeland River closed to fishing Oct. 1 - Nov. 30. **North Manitou Lk.** bass minimum size length is 18", the possession limit is 1; artificial lures only. **Florence Lk.** (S. Manitou Is.) artificial lures only. **Houdek Cr.** closed to dip netting.

LIVINGSTON: Spring Mill Pond (Island Lake Recreation Area) March 15 through March 31 no fishing; Apr. 1 through the Friday before the last Sat. in April, catch and release of trout with artificial lures only; last Sat. in April through March 14 statewide regulations apply. **Whitmore and Woodland Lks.**, carp may be speared May 1- Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

LUCE: Twin Lks. minimum size limit on largemouth and smallmouth bass is 18", possession limit is 1. Unlawful to launch or retrieve motorized vessel (greater than 5 horsepower) from state land on the E. Branch Fox River from M-28 to the mouth of Cold Creek.

MACKINAC: Brevort Lk. carp may be speared May 1- Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **Les Cheneaux Channels** spearing permitted Jan. and Feb. only. **Mackinac, Shephard, and Flower Bays** closed to fishing March 15-May 14. **Lake Huron** yellow perch minimum size is 7".

MANISTEE: Little Manistee R. 300' either side of weir closed to fishing all year; from 300' above weir to Spencers bridge closed to fishing Jan. 1- March 31; also from 300' below DNR weir to mouth closed to fishing Sept. 1-Nov. 14 and Jan. 1-March 31. **South end of Manistee Lake** (south of a line from red post 110 ft. south of boat launch on east side of lake to a red post near south end of Packaging Corp. on west side of lake), closed to fishing Sept. 6 to Oct. 15 or to when the quota of chinook eggs has been taken.

MARQUETTE: Peshekee R. open to burbot netting Dec. 15-Feb. 28. **Deer Lk. Basin**, Carp river downstream from M-28 (T47N, R27W, Sec. 4), and all other tributaries to Deer Lk. basin, possession limit is 0. Fishing restricted to artificial lures, catch and release only; live bait, dead or prepared bait, organic or processed food, or scented materials may not be possessed on the water or the shore. **Fish Lk.** carp may be speared May 1- Aug 15; closed to all other spearing; largemouth and smallmouth bass minimum size 18" and possession limit is 1 bass only. **Salmon-Trout R.**, from Lower Falls to mouth closed to fishing Aug 15-Friday before last Sat. in April.

MASON: Pere Marquette R. from 300 feet below lamprey barrier (T18N, R16W, Sec. 21) upstream to Black Creek closed to fishing when lamprey barrier is in operation.

MECOSTA: Muskegon R./Hardy Impoundment from Roger's Dam downstream to below the south-bound lane of US-131 is open to fishing the last Sat. in april through March 15.

MENOMINEE: Big Cedar R. down from mouth of Elwood Cr. (T35N, R25W, Sec. 11) open to dipping, Apr. 1- May 31. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.11). **Lake Michigan** the minimum size limit on splake is 15" on the Lake Michigan waters of Menominee County.

MIDLAND: Tittabawassee R. between Sanford Dam and mouth of Salt R. and between Dow Dam and Gordonville Bridge, closed to fishing from Mar. 16 through the Friday before last Sat. in April. **On the Chippewa, Pine, Salt, and Tittabawassee River** (mouth of the Salt R. to Dow Dam and from Gordonville Bridge downstream) **and all their tributaries** the following regulations apply from March 16 through the Friday before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows; natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be rigidly attached to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

MONROE: Huron R. and Stony Creek (downstream from Finzel Rd., T5S, R8E, Sec. 23) closed to dip netting.

MONTMORENCY: East Fish, West Fish, and Middle Fish Lks., Fuller Cr. Pond, Hunt Cr. above Section Z bulkhead (T29N, R2E, Sec. 25), and **Fuller Cr.** (in the Hunt Cr. Trout Research Station Area) no fishing. **Fletcher Floodwaters and West Twin Lk.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **North and South Blue lakes and Robarge lake**, open season is the last Sat. in April - Sept. 30, catch and release only, artificial lures only.

MUSKEGON: Muskegon Lk. catch and release fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass permitted Apr. 1- Friday before Memorial Day. **Mona Lk.** carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

NEWAYGO: Baptist Lk., possession limit for walleye, channel catfish, flathead catfish, and all bullheads is 0; **Brush and Sand Lks.**, possession limit for channel catfish, flathead catfish, and all bullheads is 0; **Hardy Pond**, catch and release fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass permitted Apr. 1- Friday before Memorial Day.

OAKLAND: Cass, Pontiac, and Kent Lks., catch and release fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass permitted Apr. 1- Friday before Memorial Day. **Heron and Tipsico Lks**, carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

OGEMAW: Jewett Lk. open season is May 15-Sept. 30, and fishing is restricted to artificial lures only and catch and release; permit needed in addition to license.

ONTONAGON: W. Br. Ontonagon R. from confluence with Victoria Hydro tailrace upstream to Victoria Dam is closed to fishing April 1 thru June 10. **Union Springs** closed to all fishing. **Lake of the Clouds** fishing restricted to artificial lures only, no bait of any type may be used or possessed, no spearing, catch and release on smallmouth bass (possession of smallmouth prohibited regardless of where taken). **N. Twin, S. Twin, Lost, W. Lost, Ford, and Section 4 Lks.** in Pigeon River trout Area, no fishing.

OTSEGO: Big Bear and Otsego Lks., carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **Otsego Lk. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Otsego Lk.** see sturgeon regulations page 10.

OTTAWA: Lk. Macatawa, carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

PRESQUE ISLE: Black Lk. and tributaries no commercial minnow take. **Clinton Creek** closed to fishing April and May. **Grand Lk. Pike Marsh** unlawful for any person other than state employee to use or operate a motorized vehicle on the access road leading from U.S. 23 to the Grand Lk. Pike Marsh during March, April, and May. **Grand Lk. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Rainy River** from confluence

with Black Lk. upstream to N. Allis Rd. Bridge (T35N, R2E, Sec. 15) closed to fishing April 1- May 14. **Shuberts Cr.** from Long Lk. upstream to Clinton Cr. Rd. (T33N, R7E, Sec 14), closed to fishing Apr. 1-May 31. **Swan River** from 300' above weir to mouth closed to fishing whenever weir is in place.

ROSCOMMON: **Backus Cr.** from confluence with Cut R. upstream to Little Mud Lake Dam closed to fishing March 23-April 23. **Cut R.** from confluence with Backus Cr. upstream to outlet at Marl Lk. closed to fishing March 23- April 23. **Houghton Lk.** no spearing. **Denton Cr.** closed to fishing Mar 23-Apr. 23.

ST. JOSEPH: **Big Pleasank Lk. and Corey Lk.,** minimum size limit for largemouth bass is 10". **Long Lk.** (Fabius Twp.) carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **Sand Lk.,** Flathead catfish possession limit is 0.

SAGINAW: **On the Bad, Cass, Flint, Saginaw, Shiawassee and Tittabawassee Rivers and all their tributaries** the following regulations apply from March 16 through the Friday before the last Sat.in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used on the Saginaw R., Swan Creek, and tributaries upstream from confluence with Pickeral Creek); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be attached rigidly to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

SCHOOLCRAFT: **Thompson Cr.** closed to dipping; closed to fishing upstream of US-2 from Sept. 1 through the Friday before the last Saturday in April. **Grassy and McKeever Lks.,** carp may be speared May 1 -Aug 15; closed to all other spearing. **Seney National Wildlife Refuge** waters have limited fishing; regulations available from Refuge office. On the BIG ISLAND COMPLEX LAKES of **Big Island, Bluegill, Blush, Byers, Coattail, Klondyke, McInnes, Mid, Townline, and Vance,** fishing is restricted to last Saturday in April - Nov. 30; artificial lures only; no spearing; bass minimum size limit is 18" and possession limit is 1; perch, bluegill, and pumpkinseed sunfish possession limit is 5 fish in combination. Unlawful to launch or retrieve motorized vessel (greater than 5 horsepower) from state land on the E. Branch Fox River from M-28 to the mouth of Cold Creek.

VAN BUREN: **Dowagiac River and tributaries** above 50th St. and Lake of Woods outlet to confluence of Dowagiac R. open to spears, bow and arrow, and hand net. **Bankson, Brownwood, and Round Lks.,** carp may be speared May 1-Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

WASHTENAW: **Huron R.** from Mast Rd. Bridge in Dexter (T1S, R5E, Sec. 32) downstream to Delhi Rd. Bridge (T2S, R5E, Sec. 2) catch and release only on largemouth and smallmouth bass. **Horseshoe Lk.** largemouth bass possession limit is 1, minimum size is 14"; northern pike possession limit is 1, sunfish (Note 5 p.9) possession limit is 10.

WAYNE: **Huron River** from Belleville Dam downstream to mouth closed to dip netting.

Common Terms

Artificial Lure means a manmade lure manufactured to imitate natural bait. Artificial lures include spoons, spinners and plugs made of metal, plastic, wood and other non-edible materials. They also include plastic products made to resemble worms, eggs, fish and other aquatic organisms.

Artificial Fly means any commonly accepted single hook wet and dry flies, streamers, and nymphs without spinner, spoon, scoop, lip or any other fishing lure or bait attached. The fly or leader may be weighted but no weight shall be attached to the fly or to the terminal tackle in a manner that allows the weight to be suspended from or below the hook.

Cast Net means a net not exceeding eight feet in diameter without walls or sides that is thrown to take minnows, alewives, smelt and shad in the Great Lakes and connecting waters.

Daily Limit means the total number of fish, amphibians or reptiles that you are permitted to catch and keep in one day. Also see Possession Limit.

Designated Trout Lake means any lake so designated by the State in which trout are the predominant game fish. You are required to have an all species license to fish these waters. Ask for FO-200.04.

Detroit River begins at the imaginary line extending due South of the Windmill Point Light, Wayne County and ends at the imaginary east-west line drawn through the most southerly point of Celeron Island.

Dropper Line A line in addition to the main fishing line, that contains a hook. Dropper lines are usually attached to the main line.

FO is a Fisheries Order issued by the DNR Director that sets or implements fishing regulations. FO's can be found online at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Gaff is a handled hook that can be used to assist an angler in landing a lawfully hooked fish.

Great Lakes Connecting Waters means specific bodies of water in Michigan that connect the Great Lakes. Designated connecting waters are Lake St. Clair, St. Marys River, St. Clair River (St. Clair R. begins at the Ft. Gratiot light) and the Detroit River.

Hand and Landing Net means a mesh bag of webbing or wire, suspended from a circular, oval or rectangular frame attached to a handle. These are the most common fishing nets used in Michigan.

- Hook** means a single, double or treble pointed hook. A hook, single, double or treble pointed and attached to a manufactured artificial lure shall be counted as 1 hook.
- Inland Waters** means all waters in Michigan except the Great Lakes and the Great Lakes connecting waters.
- Minnows** are chubs, shiners, dace, stonerollers, sculpins (muddlers), mudminnows and suckers of a size used for bait in “hook and line” fishing. See page 5.
- Possession Limit** is equal to the Daily Limit. Except a person may possess up to two (2) additional limits of coho, chinook, or pink salmon taken during previous fishing days provided that the additional limits are processed fish (canned, cured by smoking or drying, or frozen). Anglers who have not attained the age of 17 are entitled to the possession limit even though they do not have a fishing license. A person fishing waters bordered by other states or provinces AND possessing multiple fishing licenses may possess the limit allowed for **ONLY ONE** license while in transit, but while fishing in Michigan waters, must comply with Michigan possession and size limits.
- Seining** means to fish with or catch fish or reptiles with a seine, which is a large net with sinkers on one edge and floats on the other that hangs vertically in the water and is used to enclose fish when its ends are pulled together.
- Snagging** means attempting to take fish in a manner that the fish does not take the hook voluntarily in its mouth. It is unlawful to snag fish.
- Tagged or Marked Fish** means any fish that has had one of its fins clipped/removed or has an external tag attached to a fin or its body. Tagged fish are usually part of a research study. See below for details.
- Trapping** means to catch or take by use of a device, such as a cage or net, designed to capture a fish or animal.
- Weir** means a fence or enclosure set in water to block or retain fish.

Aquatic Invasive Plants and Animals

Michigan waters are threatened by non-native aquatic invasive plants and animals such as the zebra mussel, round goby, sea lamprey, Eurasian ruffe, Eurasian watermilfoil, rusty crayfish, and spiny water flea. These species and others are harmful to recreational fishing and do extensive economic and natural resource damage. Anglers should learn to identify non-native species they may encounter and take precautions to prevent their spread. These actions include:

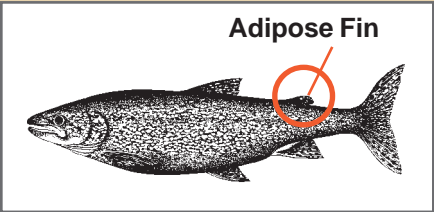
- Removing all visible aquatic plants and animals from your boat, motor, trailer, and accessory equipment before leaving the access area. Dispose of live bait and aquatic animals in the trash
- Draining live wells and all water from boats before leaving the access area
- Power washing boats and trailers wherever possible or drying all equipment thoroughly

Natural resource managers are concerned about introduction of new species and have set up an Angler's Monitoring Network to report any discoveries. Anglers should save and report unidentified fish to the nearest DNR Operations Service Center listed on the back cover of this booklet. If you have any questions, contact an Operations Service Center or visit www.michigan.gov/deq-anglers-monitoring-network, then click on Water, then Great Lakes, then Aquatic Nuisance Control. For more information about aquatic invasive plants and animals, call the Office of the Great Lakes at 517-335-4056.



Marked and Tagged Fish

In evaluating the migration, survival, and harvest of various fish stocks, the DNR often times marks fish with a fin clip, external tag, or an internal tag. You might take a fish bearing an external tag with the letters DNR, WIDNR, IDNR, IDC, FWS, or OMNR inscribed. **If you catch one of these fish, please record the following information and notify the nearest DNR Operations Service Center (see page 24): species, length, weight, sex (if possible), date and location caught, and fin clip or tag number. If releasing the fish, please do not remove the tag.**



Many Great Lakes trout/salmon have been marked with a microscopic coded-wire tag implanted in the head of the fish. Fish with these tags can be identified by the absence of the adipose fin (see diagram). If you catch a trout or salmon with **ONLY** its adipose fin missing, that fish could have such a tag. Please record the information cited above, freeze only the head and take it to (or notify) the nearest Fisheries office. **Do not mail it!** Drop sites are listed on the DNR Web site, www.michigan.gov/dnr or call 517-373-1280. Thank you for your assistance.

General Exception to the Recreational Trespass Law

On fenced or posted property or farm property, a fisherman wading or floating a navigable public stream may, without written or oral consent, enter upon property within the clearly defined banks of the stream or, without damaging farm products, walk a route as closely proximate to the clearly defined bank as possible when necessary to avoid a natural or artificial hazard or obstruction, including, but not limited to, a dam, deep hole, or a fence or other exercise of ownership by the riparian owner.

Railroad Rights-Of-Way

Railroad rights-of way are private property. Trespassing on railroad property, including trestles and bridges, is a misdemeanor. You must have written permission of the railroad company to be exempt from railway trespass.

Harassment

Anglers and hunters in Michigan have the right to enjoy their sport free from unreasonable and deliberate interference. Michigan law prohibits individuals from obstructing or interfering with the lawful taking of aquatic species (including fish, reptiles, amphibians, wigglers, or crustacea).

The DNR supports fishing and hunting as legitimate forms of recreation and as useful tools in the management of wildlife and aquatic resources. Michigan Conservation Officers are committed to protecting anglers and hunters from the intentional disruption of the fishing and hunting experience.

Individuals whose fishing or hunting is being obstructed should promptly report the violation to the DNR by calling a local Conservation Officer, the nearest DNR office (see Directory, p.24) or toll free 800-292-7800 (RAP hotline).

Fishing Tournament Information

Fishing tournament permits can be obtained by visiting www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mrbis. You must enter the water body name then click on the access site name for contact information.

Boat Registration

In Michigan, all motorized vessels propelled by any type of motor, sailboats, privately owned rowboats over 16 feet in length, rental or commercial canoes, and all rental and commercial vessels principally used in Michigan, must be registered. Vessels numbered under the approved numbering system of another state may temporarily use Michigan waters. When a vessel is moved to Michigan as its state of principal use, it must be numbered in Michigan within 60 days.

Navigation Lights

Recreational boats must display their required navigation lights at all times between sunset and sunrise, and during daylight periods of reduced visibility.

Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)

When selecting a PFD, read the label to make sure it is for a person of your size and weight. Try your PFD on to make sure it fits properly and check to make sure it is U.S. Coast Guard approved.

Craft under 16 feet long:

If your boat is less than 16 feet long or it is a canoe or kayak, you must choose either wearable or throwable PFDs. You must still have one PFD for each person on board. The U.S. Coast Guard requires all vessels less than 16 feet, used on the Great Lakes or connecting waterways, to carry one wearable approved Type I, II, or III device for each person on board.

Craft 16 feet or longer:

If your boat is 16 feet or longer, you must have on board at least one Throwable Device (Type IV PFD), **PLUS** one of any of these wearable PFDs for each person on board:

- Offshore Life Jacket (Type I PFD)
- Near-shore Buoyant Vest (Type II PFD)
- Flotation Aid (Type III PFD)

Michigan law requires:

- Everyone operating, riding on, or being towed by a personal watercraft must wear Type I, II, or III PFD.
- Persons less than six years old must wear a Type I or Type II PFD when riding on the open deck area of a boat underway.

Ice Shanties

A person placing a shanty on the ice for fishing shall permanently affix their name and address on ALL SIDES of the shanty in legible letters at least 2 inches in height. The letters shall be readily visible and consist of material not soluble in water. The name and address must be on the shanty and may not be placed on a board or other material that is then attached to the shanty. Tents or other temporary shelters that are removed from the ice each day do not require identification.

Persons placing a shanty on the waters of the **Upper Peninsula** shall remove the shanty by midnight of March 31 of any year.

Persons placing a shanty on waters in the counties of **Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Arenac, Bay, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Emmet, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Iosco, Isabella, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Montmorency, Newaygo, Oceana, Ogemaw, Osceola, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, or Wexford** shall remove the shanty by midnight of March 15 of any year. Persons placing a shanty upon the waters of the remaining portion of the Lower Peninsula shall remove the shanty by midnight on March 1 of any year. Shanties placed on Lake St. Clair shall be removed before sunset on the first Sunday after February 20th of any year. **In all areas, a shanty must be removed if ice conditions become unsafe, regardless of the date. After the above dates, a shanty must be removed at the end of each day's fishing activity.**

Lead Alternatives

The MDNR would like to remind anglers that lead is a toxic metal that can cause mortality when ingested by mammals and birds. There are non-toxic alternatives to lead for use in jigs, sinkers and other gear such as tin, bismuth, steel, and tungsten-nickel alloy. These materials can be found at established sporting goods retailers and on the internet. Current research indicates that lead poisoning is a serious concern and the MDNR would appreciate your assistance in trying to reduce toxins from entering the environment.

Other Sources of Information:

- **Biological Control of Eurasian Watermilfoil:** www.fw.umn.edu/research/milfoil/milfoilbc.html
- **Fish of Lake Michigan, Wisconsin Sea Grant:**
<http://www.seagrants.wisc.edu/greatlakesfish/LakeMichFishIndex.html>
- **Great Lakes Fishery Commission:** www.glfc.org/
- **Great Lakes Fishery Trust:** www.glft.org/
- **Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council:** www.great-lakes.org/
- **Great Lakes Temperature Information:** www.coastwatch.msu.edu/
- **Michigan Charter Boat Association:** www.micharterboats.com
- **Michigan Fishweb:** www.fishweb.com
- **Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fisherman's Association (MSSFA):** www.mssfafa.com
- **Michigan United Conservation Clubs:** www.mucc.org
- **Michigan Fish Advisory:** www.michigan.gov/mdch
- **Michigan Sea Grant:** www.miseagrants.org
- **Minnesota Sea Grant Exotic Species Information:** www.seagrants.umn.edu/
- **National Marine Fisheries Service NEFSC Headquarters:** www.nefsc.nmfs.gov/
- **Project Fish - It's for Kids!:** www.projectfish.org/
- **Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation:** www.rbff.org
- **Sea Grant Non-indigenous Species site:** www.sgnis.org/

**Free Fishing
Weekends
June 12 & 13, 2004
February 19 & 20, 2005**

Master Angler Awards

Arm patches are awarded to all entries meeting established minimum weights, or, in the case of Catch and Release, minimum lengths. However, no more than one patch per species will be awarded to each angler per year. Master Angler Certificates are awarded to anglers who catch State Record fish or one of the top 5 fish of each species in both the Catch and Keep and Catch and Release category.

To enter the Master Angler Program, complete an application form and send it to: Fisheries Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Box 30446, Lansing MI 48909. This information is required under the Authority of Part 487 of 1994 P.A. 451, as amended. Applications are available at all locations and on our Web site.

Minimum Entry Lengths/Weights and Current State Records

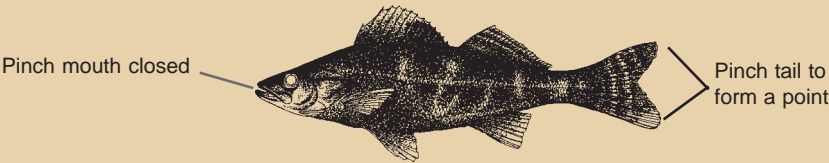
Catch and Release Entries must meet minimum length

Catch and Keep Entries must meet minimum weight

Species	(C/R only) Minimum Entry Length (inches)	Minimum Entry Weight (lbs. -oz.)	Current State Record (lbs.-oz.)	Species	(C/R only) Minimum Entry Length (inches)	Minimum Entry Weight (lbs. -oz.)	Current State Record (lbs.-oz.)
American Eel	32"	3-0	7-7	Musky, Tiger	42"	20-0	51-3
Bass, Largemouth	22"	6-0	11-15	Northern Pike	40"	18-0	39-0
Bass, Rock	11"	1-0	3-10	Perch, White	10"	0-8	1-14
Bass, Smallmouth	21"	5-0	9-4	Perch, Yellow	14"	1-13	3-12
Bass, Warmouth	9"	1-0	1-6	Salmon, Atlantic	33"	12-0	32-10
Bass, White	16"	2-0	6-7	Salmon, Chinook	41"	27-0	46-1
Bluegill	10"	1-0	2-12	Salmon, Coho	32"	12-0	30-9
Buffalo, Big Mouth	32"	20-0	----	Salmon, Pink	21"	3-0	8-9
Buffalo, Black	26"	10-0	32-10	Smelt***	10"	None	12"
Bullhead, Black	14"	1-4	3-7	Splake	25"	6-0	17-7
Bullhead, Brown	14"	1-8	3-10	Sucker, Longnose	17"	2-0	6-14
Bullhead, Yellow	14"	1-8	3-9.6	Sucker, N. Hog	13"	1-8	2-8
Bowfin	27"	7-0	14-0	Sucker, Redhorse	22"	4-0	12-14.2
Burbot	26"	5-0	18-4	Sucker, White	20"	3-0	7-3
Carp	30"	20-0	61-8* 45-0**	Sunfish, Green	9"	0-12	1-8
				Sunfish, P.Seed	9"	0-12	1-5
Carp sucker	19"	3-0	8-0	Sunfish, Redear	10"	1-0	1-15.5
Catfish, Channel	27"	8-0	40-0	Trout, Brook	17"	2-0	9-8
Catfish, Flathead	29"	10-0	47-8	Trout, Brown	33"	16-0	34-10
Crappie, Black	14"	1-12	4-2	Trout, Lake	34"	18-0	61-8
Crappie, White	14"	1-12	3-6	Trout, Rainbow (Steelhead)	34"	17-0	26-8
Freshwater Drum	21"	7-0	26-0	Walleye	29"	11-0	17-3
Gizzard Shad	16"	1-8	4-2	Whitefish, Lake	23"	6-0	14-4.5
Lake Herring	16"	2-8	5-6	Menominee	15"	1-0	4-0
Lake Sturgeon	50"	70-0	193-0				
Longnose Gar	32"	5-0	18-0				
Musky, Great Lks.	42"	20-0	48-0				
Musky, Northern	42"	20-0	49-12				

*State Record Carp; **Largest hook and line caught Carp; ***The minimum entry requirement for Smelt is 10" for both catch and keep and catch and release entries. The Smelt State Record is by length rather than weight.

Length Measurement Directions: Measure fish from tip of nose (or lower jaw) to tip of tail in a straight line (DO NOT measure in a curve around the body from nose to tail). Measure to the closest 1/8th inch. Tail and jaw should be pinched together.

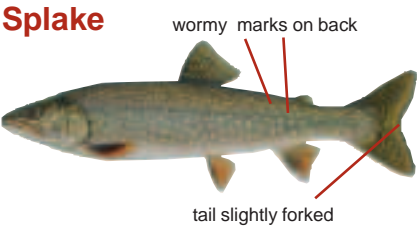


Fish Consumption Advisory

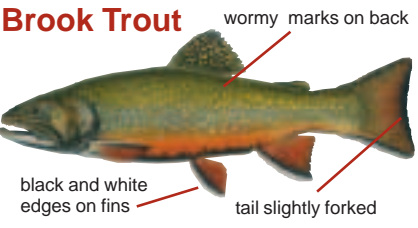
The Michigan Department of Community Health advises women of childbearing age and children under 15 to use caution when eating certain kinds and sizes of fish from the Great Lakes and from some inland lakes and streams. Fish in these waters contain levels of toxic chemicals that may be harmful if those fish are eaten too often. The 2004 Michigan Fish Advisory shows you which fish are okay to eat and how often they can be eaten. To get a copy call 800-454-8041, or go to the MDCH Web site at: www.michigan.gov.

Know Your Fish — Common Fish Species

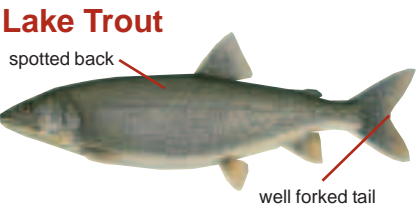
Splake



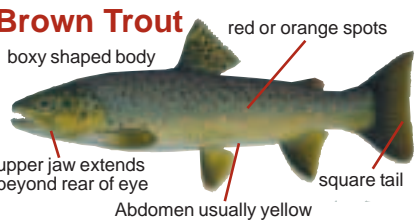
Brook Trout



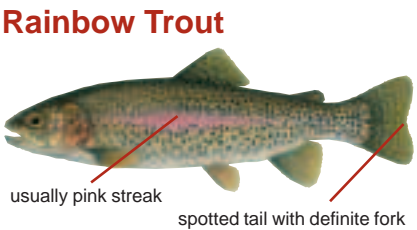
Lake Trout



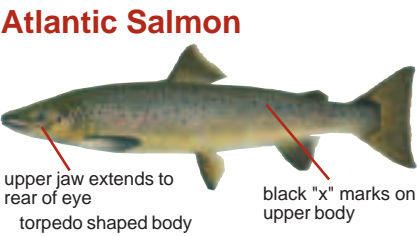
Brown Trout



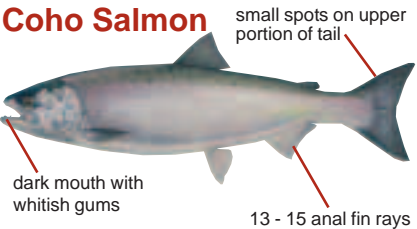
Rainbow Trout



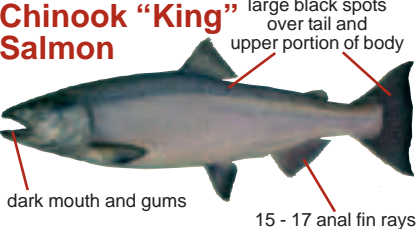
Atlantic Salmon



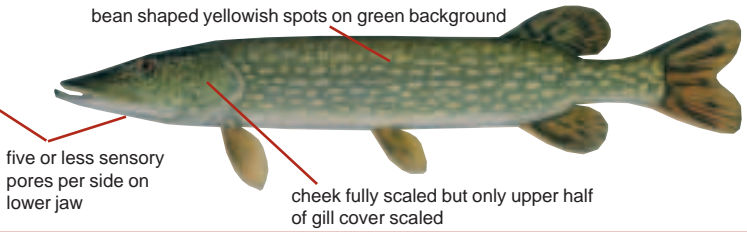
Coho Salmon



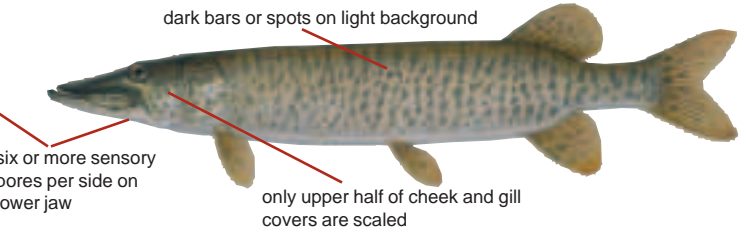
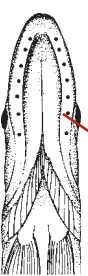
Chinook "King" Salmon



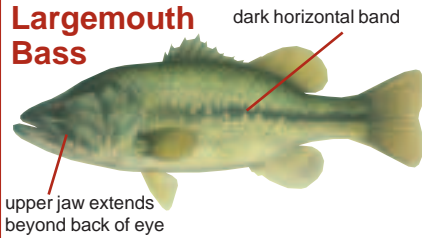
Northern Pike



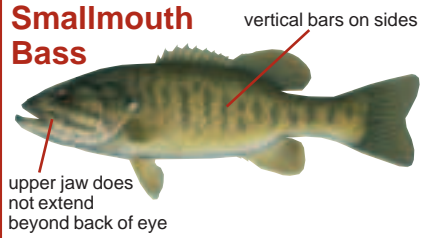
Muskellunge



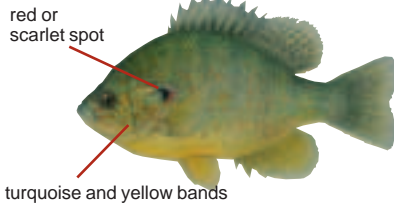
Largemouth Bass



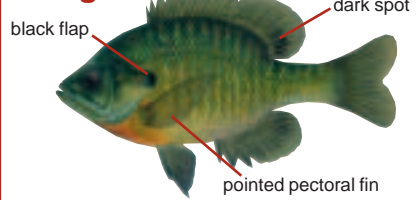
Smallmouth Bass



Pumpkinseed (Sunfish)



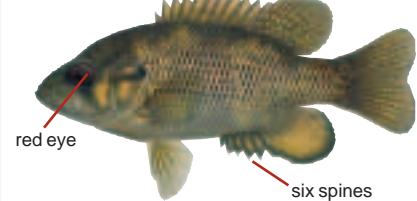
Bluegill



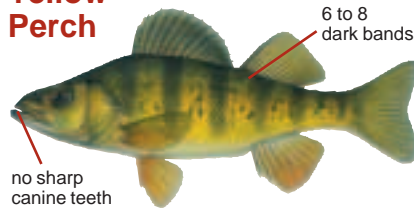
Redear Sunfish (female)



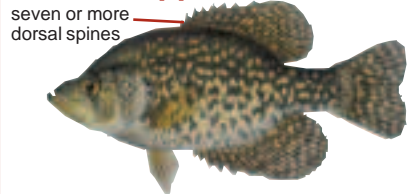
Rock Bass



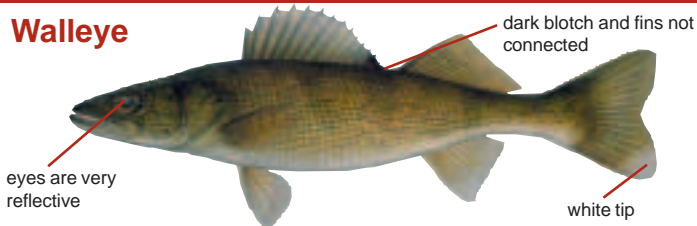
Yellow Perch



Black Crappie



Walleye



Flathead Catfish



Channel Catfish



Illustrations by —
Joseph R. Tomelleri



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The **Operations Service Centers** shown on the map below are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Or visit our Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

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